



For more information about the Garrity Interchange to Meridian Interchange project and other Connecting Idaho projects in the area:

Call: Gwen Smith, ITD Public Involvement Coordinator, at 334-4444 (TDD 334-4458)

Visit: www.itd.idaho.gov and click on "Get Involved". Connecting Idaho projects are listed under the appropriate geographic region.

E-mail: comments@itd.idaho.gov

Se les recomienda a las personas que necesiten un intérprete o arreglos especiales que llamen a la coordinadora de participación pública, Gwen Smith, al (208) 334-4444 ó TDD/TDY (208) 334-4458.



I-84 Garrity Interchange to Meridian Interchange **Project Update**

The Idaho Transportation Department thanks you for attending the first open house for the Garrity Interchange to Meridian Interchange project!

Your input is important to the success of this project. A summary of public comments, as well as a project update, is inside.



Other Connecting Idaho Projects in the Area

The Garrity Interchange to Meridian Interchange project is part of the Connecting Idaho plan to improve I-84 between Caldwell and Meridian, which is experiencing pressure from rapid growth. Projects in this area are designed to improve the roadway, add capacity and safely accommodate future traffic west of Boise.

Through the Connecting Idaho program, ITD will design a new interchange at Ten Mile Road and study possible options for extending Idaho 16 from its junction with Idaho 44 to intersect with I-84. ITD will also study the long-term "build out" for I-84 between the Middleton exit (Idaho 44) and Five Mile Road.

Construction will begin this spring to lengthen and widen the I-84 Eagle Road Off-ramp to improve traffic flow from the interstate to Eagle Road.

For more information about the Eagle Road Westbound Off-ramp construction project and other Connecting Idaho projects throughout the state, visit www.itd.idaho.gov and click on "Get Involved." Connecting Idaho projects are listed under the appropriate geographic region.

CONNECTING IDAHO

Connecting Idaho is a new funding program that allows Idaho to plan, design and build more highway projects in less time than through traditional funding methods.

In May 2006, the Idaho Legislature authorized the sale of nearly \$200 million in Grant Anticipation Revenue Vehicle (GARVEE) bonds to finance the first phase of Connecting Idaho. GARVEE financing allows Idaho to sell bonds and use the proceeds for highway projects. The bonds will be repaid with future federal highway dollars.



Thank You for your feedback about the Garrity Interchange to Meridian Interchange project. This project will relieve existing traffic congestion, increase capacity and improve safety. It includes:

- Designing an additional eastbound and westbound lane on I-84
- Determining and addressing environmental impacts
- Constructing the additional lanes

ITD received many comments during and after the two public meetings in Nampa and Meridian in December 2006. A full transcription of written comments is available at the project Web site. Here are the main themes we heard from you:

We asked:

What issues should be considered when designing the third lane between the Garrity and Meridian interchanges?

You responded:

- Plan for a fourth lane now
- Investigate noise barriers and high occupancy vehicle lanes
- Widen or reconstruct the I-84 interchanges between Caldwell and Meridian

We asked:

What environmental issues in the area should we be aware of?

You responded:

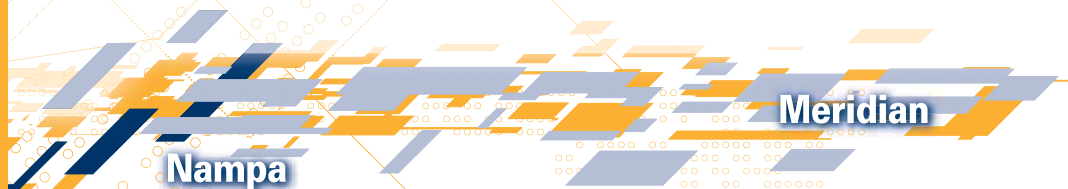
- Air and noise pollution
- None

We asked:

What issues should be considered when it is time to construct the third lane?

You responded:

- Accelerate the construction schedule
- Work at night or 24/7
- Build sound walls



What's next:

ITD is completing the preliminary design for this project and will begin final design in the next few months. Final design is anticipated to be completed by fall 2007.

ITD will host another public meeting during the final design phase of this project to gather input on final design

plans and how traffic will be managed during construction.

Construction will occur after the final design is completed. Updates will be available at the project Web site (www.itd.idaho.gov); go to Get Involved, Southwest Idaho and then Garrity Interchange to Meridian Interchange Project).